

KCC 4845 (K-C 16,984)
PATENTIN THE CLAIMS

1-44 (Cancelled).

45 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 95 wherein said article is a diaper.

46 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 95 wherein the absorbent body is affixed to the stretchable multilayer chassis in a lateral attachment pattern.

47-49 (Cancelled).

50 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 95 wherein the stretchable multilayer chassis comprises a chassis liner and an outer cover, said chassis liner defining the inner surface of said
5 chassis and said outer cover defining the outer surface of said chassis.

51 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50, wherein the chassis liner and the outer cover are each extensible.

52 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the chassis liner and the outer cover are each elastic.

53 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the chassis liner is extensible and the outer cover is elastic.

54 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the chassis liner is elastic and the outer cover is extensible.

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55 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the chassis liner comprises a neck-stretched, spunbond web.

56 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 25% to about 125%.

57 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 100% to about 200%.

58 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 150% to about 250%.

59 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises polypropylene spunbond material laminated with styrene-isoprene-styrene-based adhesive.

60 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises at least one of the following: a microporous polymer film, a nonwoven fabric, a spunbonded laminate, a meltblown laminate, a spunbond-meltblown-spunbond laminate, and a stretch-bonded laminate.

61 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 50 wherein the outer cover comprises a thermoplastic nonwoven web made from a stretchable polymer.

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62 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 61 wherein the stretchable polymer is selected from the following: polyolefins, polyethylene, heterophasic polymers, olefin polymers and multi-block elastomeric copolymers.

63 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 95 wherein the absorbent body comprises at least an absorbent core.

64 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 63 wherein the absorbent body further comprises at least one of a tissue wrapsheet and an absorbent body liner.

65 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 63 wherein the absorbent core comprises a matrix of hydrophilic fibers and superabsorbent material.

66 (Currently amended). A disposable absorbent article having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, said article comprising:

- a stretchable multilayer chassis having an inner surface and an outer surface, said chassis comprising:
 - an elastic chassis liner defining the inner surface of the chassis and being stretchable at least laterally; and
 - an elastic outer cover secured to the chassis liner and defining the outer surface of the chassis, said outer cover being stretchable at least laterally;
- an absorbent body having an inner surface, an outer surface overlaying the inner surface of the chassis, and longitudinal ends, the absorbent body comprising:
 - an absorbent core;

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15 a tissue wrapsheet wrapped about the absorbent core; and
a surge management layer; and
an absorbent body liner secured at least in part to the
chassis liner, said absorbent body being disposed between the
absorbent body liner and the chassis liner with the surge
20 management layer disposed between the tissue wrapsheet and the
absorbent body liner;

the absorbent body liner extending longitudinally to the
longitudinal ends of the absorbent body and having an inner
surface and an outer surface facing the inner surface of the
25 absorbent body, said inner surface of the absorbent body liner
being uncovered at the longitudinal ends of the absorbent body
to permit contact of the absorbent body liner with a wearer of
the article at the longitudinal ends of the absorbent body, the
absorbent body liner and absorbent body being sized relative to
30 the chassis such that a portion of the chassis is uncovered by
the absorbent body liner and absorbent body to permit contact
of the inner surface of the chassis with the wearer of the
article the inner surface of the absorbent body being free from
contact with the chassis at the longitudinal ends of the
35 absorbent body.

67 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the absorbent body is affixed to the stretchable multilayer chassis in a lateral attachment pattern.

68 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the absorbent body is affixed along at least a portion of its outer surface to the chassis liner.

69-75 (Cancelled).

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76 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the chassis liner comprises a neck-stretched, spunbond web.

77 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 25% to about 125%.

78 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 100% to about 200%.

79 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises an elastic material that is stretchable both laterally and longitudinally by about 150% to about 250%.

80 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises polypropylene spunbond material laminated with styrene-isoprene-styrene-based adhesive.

81 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises at least one of the following: a microporous polymer film, a nonwoven fabric, a spunbonded laminate, a meltblown laminate, a
5 spunbond-meltblown-spunbond laminate, and a stretch-bonded laminate.

82 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the outer cover comprises a thermoplastic nonwoven web made from a stretchable polymer.

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83 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 82 wherein the stretchable polymer is selected from the following: polyolefins, polyethylene, heterophasic polymers, olefin polymers and multi-block elastomeric copolymers.

84 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66 wherein the absorbent body comprises at least one of a non-stretch material and a low stretch material.

85 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent article set forth in claim 66, wherein the absorbent core comprises a matrix of hydrophilic fibers and superabsorbent fibers.

86-87 (Cancelled).

88 (Currently amended). A disposable absorbent article comprising:

- a stretchable multilayer chassis having a longitudinal axis, a lateral axis, an inner surface, an outer surface,
- an elastic chassis liner defining the inner surface of the chassis and being stretchable at least laterally, and an elastic outer cover secured to the chassis liner and defining the outer surface of the chassis, said outer cover being stretchable at least laterally;
- an absorbent body having an inner surface, an outer surface and longitudinal ends, said absorbent body being affixed along at least a portion of its outer surface to the inner surface of said chassis whereby the inner surface of the absorbent body lies against a wearer of the article during use,
- said chassis being stretchable about the wearer independent of the absorbent body; and

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at least ~~one leg elastic member~~ two leg elastic members
spaced laterally from each other and interposed between the
elastic outer cover and the elastic chassis liner.

89 (Currently amended). The disposable absorbent article
set forth in claim 88 further comprising at least one waist
elastic member extending longitudinally substantially less than
the length of the chassis and interposed between the elastic
5 outer cover and the elastic chassis liner.

90 (Previously presented). The disposable absorbent
article set forth in claim 88 wherein the inner surface of the
absorbent body is free from contact with the chassis at the
longitudinal ends of the absorbent body.

91 (Currently amended). The disposable absorbent article
set forth in claim 50 further comprising at least ~~one leg~~
~~elastic member~~ two leg elastic members spaced laterally from
each other and interposed between the outer cover and the
5 chassis liner.

92 (Currently amended). The disposable absorbent article
set forth in claim 50 further comprising at least one waist
elastic member extending longitudinally substantially less than
the length of the chassis and interposed between the outer
5 cover and the chassis liner.

93 (Currently amended). The disposable absorbent article
set forth in claim 66 further comprising at least ~~one leg~~
~~elastic member~~ two leg elastic members spaced laterally from
each other and interposed between the outer cover and the
5 chassis liner.

94 (Currently amended). The disposable absorbent article
set forth in claim 66 further comprising at least one waist

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elastic member extending longitudinally substantially less than
the length of the chassis and interposed between the outer
5 cover and the chassis liner.

95 (Currently amended). A disposable absorbent article
comprising:

a stretchable multilayer chassis having a longitudinal
axis, a lateral axis, an inner surface, and an outer surface;
5 said chassis being stretchable at least laterally; and
an absorbent body having an inner surface, an outer
surface facing the inner surface of the chassis, and
longitudinal ends, said absorbent body being affixed along at
least a portion of its outer surface to the inner surface of
10 said chassis whereby the inner surface of the absorbent body
lies against a wearer of the article during use, ~~the inner~~
~~surface of the absorbent body being free from contact with the~~
~~chassis at the longitudinal ends of the absorbent body~~, the
inner surface of the absorbent body being uncovered at the
15 longitudinal ends thereof to permit contact of the absorbent
body with the wearer of the article at the longitudinal ends of
the absorbent body, the absorbent body being sized relative to
the chassis such that a portion of the chassis is uncovered by
the absorbent body to permit contact of the inner surface of
20 the chassis with the wearer of the article, said chassis being
stretchable about the wearer independent of the absorbent body.

96 - 98 (Canceled).